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### TSP TIGKER

February changes [as of 2/21]

C FUND + 1.51 percent

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**FEBRUARY 23, 2007** 

## Tiger Teams need your feedback

By Eric S. Bartelt Sports Editor

Six Tiger Teams took on the responsibility of trying to refine many of the planning processes and program development at the U.S. Military Academy.

The teams covered areas in strategic planning, military development, physical development, moral ethical development, refinement and implementation of standards, and the institutionalization of the cadet leader development system. They came forward in December with more than 50 recommendations for Superintendent Lt. Gen. Franklin J. Hagenbeck.

"Tiger Team" is a term originated by the U.S. military. It designates a collection of individuals who are employed by an organization as specialists and tasked to take on a specific project for a short period of time

All of the recommendations are now conceptually approved for development and planning, said Col. Kelly Kruger, director of the Office of Policy, Plans and Analysis, and they have been tasked out to the appropriate areas



CADET FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM, pages 6-7

such as the commandant and chief of staff.

"The superintendent feels there was an incredibly high level of agreement over the recommendations, which was shocking [since they came] from a very diverse bunch of people," Kruger said. "Virtually all of those recommendations have been approved for [development]."

Now, it's up to everyone else who was not involved in the Tiger Team process to have their say, Kruger said. The leadership wants to ensure everyone has a say in the final discussion to make sure a recommendation is feasible or not, he added.

"The superintendent wants feedback," Kruger said. "There is a desire for a broadly diverse set of views on the Tiger Team recommendations [and we want] to encourage folks to participate and, at the very minimum, provide new thoughts on a given topic."

To get involved and voice your opinions about the various recommendations, go to the internal Web site set up by Lt. Col. Michael Johnson, institutional research chief and Alan Fox, OPA strategic planner, [www-internal.usma.army.mil/opa/irab/surveys/ttfeedback.asp].

"[Lt.] Col. Johnson's institutional researchers set up the site and they'll watch it. The data collection results will be fed to the components for various actions provided for their consideration," Kruger said.

The site will be open for two months to receive feedback on the original six Tiger Teams' recommendations. However, there are currently two more Tiger Teams working on the review of the academy schedule and on Corps squad and club squad athletics and how to fit them into the standard physical program. Those teams' recommendations won't surface to the masses for at least another two

See TIGER TEAMS on page 3



#### **Bold & Beautiful**

Ron Aira, photographer for *Essence Magazine*, takes a picture of West Point's African-American women for their May issue titled Bold & Beautiful. As the future leaders for our Army, the cadets are being showcased to highlight the enormous responsibility they are undertaking.

Photo BY Cadet 3RD Class Joshua Lospinoso/Howitzer

### Cadet named 8th USMA Gates scholar

By Jim Fox Assistant Editor

Cadet 1st Class Andrew Robinson was notified Feb. 11 that he is a 2007 Gates Cambridge scholar.

The 22-year-old native of Fairfax, Va., plans on studying toward his master's of philosophy in Economics in September 2007 when he begins a three-week economics prep course.

The Gates Cambridge

## Supe's brief

**Today** 

12:45 p.m. Robinson Auditorium Scholarship is funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It is designed to allow students worldwide, who show a commitment to public service, to study at Cambridge University in England.

Robinson was one of 48 Americans to earn the scholarship in 2007.

He is the eighth cadet to earn the honor since the scholarship was first awarded in 2001.

The double major in operations research and economics with honors said he was "very excited" when he was informed by e-mail.

"I felt like all the work I had done at West Point was paying off, and, in doing so, giving me an opportunity to try an even better challenge," Robinson said.

The current cadet battalion commander for First Regiment's second battalion, Robinson said he sees his time at Cambridge as a catalyst for his Army career. "I'd like to be a leader who can bridge the gap between academics and military decision-makers," the future infantry officer said. "Economics applies quantitative skills to policy. It's something that is very useful in the asymmetric warfare and counter-insurgencies we're fighting."



Cadet 1st Class Andy Robinson

## Community Point-of-View

## The Hatch Act and the electronic age -- not a good fit

Commentary by Irene Brown Chief, Command Information

With several local politicians announcing presidential runs in 2008, both military members and Federal civilian employees here should "hatch" some plans to review the rules, regulations and restrictions regarding political activities.

The Hatch Act generally permits most Federal employees to actively participate in political management and campaigns. Its purpose is not to prohibit discussion of political subjects or candidates. In fact, it explicitly protects the rights of Federal employees to express their opinions on political subjects and candidates, both publicly and privately, through "water-cooler" type discussions.

However, we are well into the electronic age and, during the last Presidential election, a number of complaints were filed with the U.S.

Office of Special Counsel regarding the use of electronic messaging devices to send or deliver partisan political messages. This includes computers, cellular telephones and handheld wireless e-mail devices [e.g., Palm Pilots and BlackBerrys, etc.]. Whether government-issued or personally-owned, the Hatch Act prohibits use of these devices to distribute partisan political messages while in uniform, on duty or in a government building or vehicle.

Unfortunately, electronic messaging technology is often used today instead of face-to-face conversations or telephone calls. However, just because some water-cooler type discussion takes place through e-mail doesn't automatically change it from personal opinion to a Hatch Act violation. But because today's technology gives users the ability to disseminate their opinions to much wider audiences, OSC officials said it could be

considered a form of electronic leafleting or "electioneering" at the worksite. That could fall under "prohibited political activity," a definite violation of the Act.

The following are some things to consider when determining if an e-mail falls under the Hatch Act's prohibition against on-duty political activity:

- Is the purpose of the message to encourage the recipient to support a particular political party or vote for a particular candidate for partisan political office?
- Is the audience specific or general? How many people are on the distribution? What is the sender's relationship to the recipient?
- Is the message being sent in a Federal building, in a Governmentowned vehicle or when the employee is on duty?

One of my favorite examples

of "not thinking before sending" occurred on the day before the 2000 Presidential election. A government employee, while on duty and in a government building, used his government computer to e-mail all agency employees a message captioned "URGENT! FORWARD TO UNDECIDED & NADERITES." The text of the message praised Presidential Candidate Al Gore and encouraged recipients to forward the message to as many people as possible because there were "only 18 more hours to bring Nader voters to their senses and get them to vote for the ONLY candidate for President -- Al Gore!!!" OSC concluded this employee violated the Hatch Act.

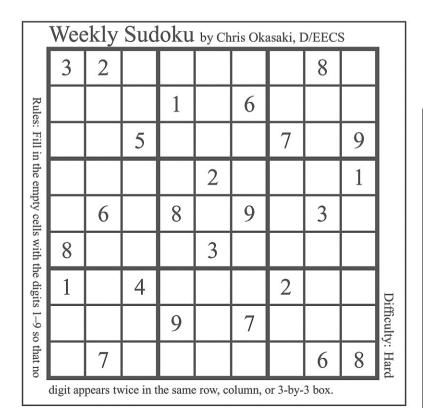
No one is asking us to give up our rights to have political opinions [although most of the time it's never good to discuss politics or religion with anyone except those who have no recourse but to listen, like spouses and children]. While there can be penalties involved with those discussions too, they won't be anywhere as severe as Hatch Act violation consequences.

Hatch Act violations bring much more trouble than a counseling or slap on the wrist for both military and civilians. For civilians, penalties can range from a 30-day suspension without pay to removal from federal employment. For Soldiers, violations of DOD Directive 1344.10 or AFI 51-902 are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

For more detailed information on the Hatch Act, visit **www.osc. gov/hatchact.htm**.

## **SARP INFO**

Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Team are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto (Garrison), Maj. Samantha Breton (USCC), Maj. Kim Kawamoto (ODIA) and Lt. Col. Robbie Williams (Dean). Community members can e-mail McMahon at Jeanette.McMahon@usma. edu for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here. Cadets can also call the sexual assault support helpline at (845) 591-7215. West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call (845) 938-3369.



See Solution on Page 9

## POINTER VIEW

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## Local and National News

## TIGER TEAMS, cont. from page 1

to three months, according to Fox.

"There are essentially two types of data collection information, the feedback information to each set of recommendations that have been posted to the Web site and then the demographic information," Fox said. "The demographic information is limited to questions like, 'Are you on active duty, a civilian or a cadet?' and this is done so we have an idea about where in the community the comments are generated from.

"We really want to see an individual's specific comments," Fox added, "and whether they support the recommendations or not, we want them to explain why [in the comments box]."

The Web site has been open since Feb. 9 and the more than 50 recommendations can be seen in bullet form with an open narrative box to offer your comments.

Feedback from the community is important, Fox said, because the Tiger Teams put a lot of hours and work into the process from October through December. Kruger said he is very happy with how everything turned out with the teams, which are now disbanded, in trying to get things improved at the academy.

The recommendation concepts range from developing new policies for uniform standards for the cadets and staff and faculty, adding mandatory meals and integrating Corps squad athletes within the physical training program, to the feasibility of executing a third athletic season for intramurals.

"It's a wonderful idea [to add a third company athletic season], but there are pros and cons to every action," Kruger stated. "We may need more opportunities for cadets to play sports they like and still be able to do the other enrichment activities they are doing. Is it feasible? Col. Gregory Daniels [DPE director] has a spacious gym and there are many activities over there with a lot of club and Corps

squad teams who are in the gym vying for space.

"On the surface, it sounds like a great idea to where everyone acknowledges that three seasons of athletics are better than two, but can they do it?" Kruger added. "As a cadet, I swam and played squash and there's a lot of room to swim, but on the other hand the squash courts are gone. The options we had before are not the same options today, so the devil is in the details," he said

As for the recommendations, the superintendent will track the concept actions and make a final decision on each recommendation once it has been developed and staffed.

"The questions with the recommendations are can we afford them with time, money or people?" Kruger said. "Everybody acknowledged these were pretty good ideas, but will they all be approved? I suspect not, because we'll have some issues with resources that we just can't overcome despite how good of an idea something might be."

With the commandant and dean's staff dealing with most of the recommended tasks, they have from early March through the fall to complete the development of their recommendations. However, Kruger said, they hope most of the recommended changes will be in place before R-Day.

"We may have to slip some to the right. It is a very ambitious cycle of recommendations and plans," Kruger said. "Many of these tasks are policies and plans and we want to get them in place prior to the new cadets showing up in the summer, so we can spin them up for the fall. We really need to get it done by the June time frame.

"We got far more out of it then I ever envisioned," Kruger added. "The superintendent is encouraged by the broad-based participation and a lot of people are buying into the way ahead."

## Delivery problems?

For PV home delivery problems contact Valerie Mullane at the Poughkeepsie Journal at [845] 437-4730 or by e-mail at vmullane@poughkee. gannett.com.

## McHugh elected chairman of West Point Board of Visitors

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- New York Congressman John M. McHugh has been named the new Chairman of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy. McHugh was unanimously endorsed by the other members attending the Board's meeting last week.

"For the last 12 years, it has been a privilege to serve on the West Point Board of Visitors," McHugh said. "This is an institution that plays a critically important role in both our national security and the ongoing excellence of our military forces. I am truly honored to assume the role of Chairman and look forward to working with my colleagues to continue guiding the academy as it educates, trains and inspires the future leaders of the United States Army."

The Board of Visitors meets four times each year to review and

receive updates on the academic, physical and military programs at West Point. The Board is charged with looking into a wide range of academy matters, including morale and discipline, curriculum, instructions, physical equipment, fiscal affairs and academic methods. Each year, it submits a report to the President concerning its actions, views, and recommendations on

such topics.

McHugh has served on the Board of Visitors since 1995 as a representative of the House Armed Services Committee.

The 15-member Board is appointed under the provision in Section 4355 of Title 10, U.S. Code, and is comprised of both Presidential appointees and members of Congress.

## Mandatory anthrax vaccination program resumes

By Maj. William D. Porter, Chief, Preventive Medicine KACH

The Department of Defense has again mandated anthrax vaccinations for uniformed personnel, emergency essential and comparable U.S. government civilian employees and contractors currently deployed [as well as those deploying within 60 days] to the U.S. CENTCOM or Korea areas of responsibility for 15 or more consecutive days.

On Dec.15, 2005, the Food

and Drug Administration found the anthrax vaccine to be safe and effective in preventing anthrax.

Anthrax vaccination is voluntary for uniformed and civilian personnel no longer deployed to CENTCOM or Korea who have had at least one dose of anthrax vaccine and want to continue. It is also voluntary for government civilian employees and contractors [not in the mandatory group] and family members of DOD personnel who meet the criteria above.

Anthrax is caused by a bacterium [Bacillus anthracis]

and leads to three types of disease in humans [skin, gastrointestinal, inhalation]. It is very effective as a biological weapon because one can unknowingly inhale the anthrax spores and then develop inhalation anthrax. This is the most deadly form of the disease and is over 99 percent fatal if untreated.

The anthrax vaccine was originally licensed by the FDA in 1970 and cannot cause anthrax disease. The FDA-licensed schedule for anthrax vaccine is six doses given over 18 months. Doses are given at zero, two and four weeks

prior to deploying, then six, 12 and 18 months after initial vaccination, plus annual boosters. Those who have received the vaccine should return to the vaccination clinic at the appropriate date under the shot schedule for the next dose [whether it is mandatory or voluntary], as long as eligibility to receive the vaccine exists.

Following the recommended vaccination schedule ensures that the protection of each additional dose builds on the immune response to earlier doses. Soldiers who started the anthrax vaccination

series but had doses delayed will simply pick up the vaccination schedule where they last left off.

Those scheduled to deploy in the near future will receive information regarding the vaccine at their predeployment medical processing appointment with the chief of the Dept. of Preventative Medicine.

For questions about availability at KACH, call the Department of Preventative Medicine at 938-2676. For additional information about the Anthrax vaccine or other DOD immunization policies, visit www.vaccines.mil.

## Troops to Teachers program adds advance hiring feature

By Sgt. Sara Wood American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- Military members with a desire to mentor and shape young minds now may not have to face the anxiety of an uncertain future when retiring or separating from the military.

In a new twist on Troops to Teachers, a program that has long been producing teachers out of the ranks of the military, qualified servicemembers can now be hired in advance to work as teachers in certain school districts

The Hire in Advance Program, which has launched in Las Vegas, Denver and Newark, N.J., guarantees teaching jobs for eligible military up to three years before they retire or separate from active duty, Wayne Rees, of Mt. West Troops to Teachers in Las Vegas, said in an interview.

Troops who qualify for the Hire in Advance program can send in applications and interview with school officials, who can officially hire them up to three years before they leave active duty, Rees explained. During that time, military members can finish the necessary schooling and teaching requirements, creating a seamless transition between active duty and the start of their new careers, he said.

The program was unveiled in Las Vegas in June, and the first two Hire in Advance Program agreements were awarded. Since then, Troops to Teachers has been working with states, especially those with high-needs areas, to expand the program, Rees said.

"We absolutely are offering it to every state and every school district, with the hopes that we can help our military personnel have a seamless transition from the military into teaching kindergarten through 12th grade public schools," he said.

To qualify for the Hire in Advance Program, servicemembers must have a bachelor's degree and meet other Troops to Teachers requirements, such as having served six or more years in the military honorably. The program offers counseling and referral services for each state, as well as a \$5,000 stipend to help pay certification costs. Servicemembers may also qualify for an extra \$5,000 if they are hired at a high-needs school.

## Lawmakers propose passenger bill of rights

WASHINGTON [Congress Daily] -- JetBlue's problems with cancelled flights over the past week might boost prospects for an airline passengers' bill of rights that Rep. Mike Thompson of California announced Feb. 16. He will introduce it when Congress returns from its Presidents Day recess.

Thousands of JetBlue passengers were stranded after the airline did not cancel flights quickly enough during winter storms and then did not have the staff to move travelers to different flights.

"Flying will never be as comfortable as home, but passengers have a right to know what level of service they can expect on an aircraft," Thompson said in a statement. "I think the airlines will also benefit from having a set of rules to guide them through difficult situations, such as weather emergencies."

Thompson decided to draft the legislation after one of his constituents started an online petition demanding more rights for passengers after being stranded on an American Airlines flight in December, a spokesman said.

The bill would give passengers the right to deplane if they have been sitting on the tarmac for longer than three hours. It also would require airlines to inform passengers on "chronically delayed" flights at the time of ticket purchases, keep passengers better informed on the causes of delays, and provide passengers trapped in planes on the tarmac with food, water and clean bathrooms.

A spokeswoman for the Senate Commerce Committee said it has not yet determined if there is a role for Congress in ensuring passengers' rights, or if the FAA should take the lead. During a Commerce Aviation Subcommittee hearing Feb. 15 on the reauthorization of the FAA, many senators referred to the JetBlue debacle and cited a Bureau of Transportation Statistics report which said one out of every five flights in the United States arrived late, the worst rate since 2000.

Thompson's spokeswoman said he plans on introducing the bill next week. A spokesman for Illinois Senator Jerry Costello, the Transportation and Infrastructure Aviation Subcommittee Chairman, said there will be a future hearing

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## Virtual Army Experience unveiled at Daytona 500

Submitted by Lori Mezoff America's Army PR Director

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- The U.S. Army launched the Virtual Army Experience, a high-tech, team-based experience designed to immerse visitors in the operational roles of Soldiers in the U.S. Army Feb. 12.

This 10,000-square-foot interactive exhibit brings the Army's exceptionally popular computer game, America's Army: Special Forces [Overmatch], to a life-size networked world, to provide visitors with a virtual test drive of Soldiering. In the Virtual Army Experience, participants

employ teamwork, leadership and high-tech equipment as they take part in a hands-on virtual mission to capture a terrorist leader.

The Virtual Army Experience debuted last week at Speed Weeks in Daytona, Fla. During 2007, the Army will deploy the Virtual Army Experience to 35 events around the nation.

The Virtual Army Experience schedule is available at www. americasarmy.com and www. goarmy.com.

The huge exhibit dominated the sponsor area outside of Daytona International Speedway and was visited by more than 2,500 race fans and key Army and government

officials who were able to get a better idea of what being a Soldier in today's Army could be like.

"The Virtual Army Experience provided visitors with unparalleled insight into today's high-tech Army, in which smart, capable Soldiers work within elite teams to master the most complex and demanding situations," said Col. Casey Wardynski, project director for America's Army and originator of the concept for the Virtual Army Experience. "Upon entering the Virtual Army Experience visitors meet virtual members of their teams -- skilled professionals in fields ranging from aviation to communications. From this



West Point's Col. Casey Wardynski, the director of the Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis at the U.S. Military Academy, the project director for America's Army and the originator of the concept for the VAE, briefs Army NASCAR Nextel Cup driver Mark Martin and his son, Matt, Feb. 16.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY AMERICA'S ARMY

point forward, visitors gain an appreciation of the degree to which the Army prepares young adults to be confident, skilled and trusted."

In the 20-minute Virtual Army Experience, participants receive video briefings by Soldiers who span the expertise, backgrounds and personal goals typical of Soldiers who make the Army the world's premier land force. At the Joint Operations Center, participants receive an intelligence, force protection, signal, support and current situation briefing to prepare them to enter a virtual combat operation.

Participants then enter the mission simulator area where, using adapted combat systems that employ laser engagement and force feedback technology to replicate the feel and function of Army equipment, they execute a simulated operation in the War on Tarrorism

The participants fall-in on six HMMWV simulators modeled on vehicles employed by Army Special Forces, and onto two Overwatch or covering positions where participants employ light arms and TOW anti-tank missiles.

Working as a team, participants are charged with executing the ground component of a raid on a terrorist stronghold.

Wardynski said that the reaction of the multitude of visitors was positive and very supportive.

Upon mission completion, participants move to the After Action Review area where they receive a debriefing on their performance. The Virtual Army Experience also includes several interactive exhibits, including multiplayer versions of the America's Army computer game and opportunities to operate the Packbot Robot.

[Editor's Note: West Point's Jim Fox contributed to this article.]



NASCAR fans at Sunday's Daytona 500 in Daytona, Fla., try out the Virtual Army Experience mission simulator area, where participants "fought" on six HMMWV simulators.

## DOD's Travel Risk Planning System available for Soldiers

By Kelly Widener U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala. -- A tool used by Soldiers to assess the risk of driving their privately owned vehicles on trips is now the same tool that Airman, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen will use beginning in early March.

Formally adopted across the Department of Defense, the tool known to Soldiers as ASMIS-2 officially becomes TRiPS, or Travel Risk Planning System.

The tool was adopted because of its ability to give users a comprehensive risk assessment based on their travel plans and recommendations for certain actions to help lower risks.

"ASMIS-2's greatest value

has always been the one-onone interaction and dialogue it promotes between the supervisor and subordinate," said the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center Sgt. Maj. David Griffith. "The specific questions asked about an upcoming trip allow supervisors and Soldiers to engage and help identify potential faults in driving plans and help provide other alternatives."

The online tool was adopted last year by the Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and recently by the Air Force. Since its implementation in the Army, more than 1,783,000 assessments have been completed by Soldiers, with 6 fatalities occurring during assessed trips. These statistics show that those using the tool may be less likely to be involved in fatal mishaps.

TRiPS is expected to continue with the same results across all service branches.

"Since the release of TRiPS, 29,061 Sailors have registered for accounts and 15,452 risk assessments have been completed," said Navy Capt. Bill Glenn, director of Shore Safety at the Naval Safety Center. "To date, no Navy personnel who have been traveling on a risk assessment have been involved in a fatal motor vehicle accident."

While elements of ASMIS-2 remain the same -- such as inputting information like the type of vehicle being driven, age, start and end points, expected sleep before traveling, seat belt use and more -- TRiPS offers more than just a name change. The tool offers additional features specifically for supervisors. One of the new features



allows supervisors to view the TRiPS activity of their subordinates two levels down, which offers more opportunity for leadership engagement and awareness.

"TRiPS will continue to provide users with risk awareness features such as the mapping feature," Griffith said. "However, the new features make this positive and proven tool even more valuable in the fight against POV fatalities of not only our Soldiers, but all DOD servicemembers and civilians."

Army personnel can expect the name change of ASMIS-2 to TRiPS on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center's Web site at https://crc.army.mil next month

## \_\_Community Features and Photos

## Semester abroad -- experiencing cultural immersion firsthand

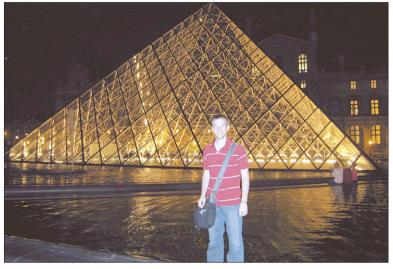
By Eric S. Bartelt Sports Editor

Changing the view of America overseas can be made one cadet at a time, and last semester 32 cadets had their chance to put their best foot forward for both the United States and the U.S. Military Academy.

The Department of Foreign Languages Semester Abroad Program continues to send West Point's best representatives around the world. Their experiences immerse them into the culture of the country they're going to as well as altering the views of the students and the populations they converse with on a daily basis.

As more than 50 cadets enjoy the program this semester, the 32 that came back last semester called it an adventure of a lifetime.

Cadet 1st Class Daniel Fisher was one of six cadets who traveled to Morocco last semester to Al Akhawayn University and experienced using the Arabic language in its purest form -- within



Cadet 1st Class Blake Peterson poses outside of the Louvre in Paris. Peterson will branch military intelligence.

the Arab world.

Although speaking Arabic in class at West Point in the classic form is much different than trying to deal with the colloquial form that is actually spoken among Arabs, it was still a treat for Fisher to get a chance to learn the language by trial and error.

"It's cool because you spend three-to-four years studying Arabic, French or Russian in Washington Hall, then you go on the semester abroad and use it every day talking to people who grew up with a completely different life than you," Fisher said. "You can communicate with them, albeit with a little difficulty, but I thought it was cool."

Fisher said he enjoyed the people, who were very hospitable, and lived many memorable experiences that included riding on an ATV through the Sahara Desert and riding a camel. But, most importantly to him was the chance to see a society that has a recorded history of a few thousand more years than his own country.

"[Morocco] has so much history," Fisher explained. "Seeing all that history up close was really fascinating."

Cadet 1st Class Blake Peterson also experienced four months abroad, attending Ecole Polytechnique in the suburbs of Paris.

Peterson got a chance to play French intercollegiate basketball there and developed great friendships while going to the internationally-based university.

"The French people were really receptive and it was an intellectually-driven community," Peterson said. "The cadet who went with me and I were nervous at the thought that we would be dumped into an anti-American society, but that wasn't the case. It was our ability to express ourselves as not only Americans, but military Americans, so if people had something against what America was doing, undoubtedly, they had something against us.

"We were able to help present a face that they could put with that, and, hopefully, if they had poor feelings before they now feel a little differently," Peterson added. "I had close Iranian friends, close Syrian friends and there wasn't a person who I didn't get along with or a person who didn't appreciate what I was about."

That's the primary objective of the semester abroad program -- to change the way people in places like China, Egypt and Russia view



Cadet 2nd Class Michael Duda outside the Church of the Spilt Blood in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Americans.

Cadet 2nd Class Michael Duda spent his semester going to Voronezh State University in Russia. His most interesting experience was living in an apartment with a 60-year-old Russian woman.

"She had a Cold War mindset. Once a week she would ask me why I was in Russia and what was I doing for the Americans by studying in Russia," Duda said. "She was very suspicious of me."

It wasn't all 'cloak and See CULTURE on page 7

#### CULTURE, cont. from page 6

dagger' for Duda, as he enjoyed the international university by interacting with the Europeans, Chinese and Russian students, especially the Russian students.

"Unlike the older Russians, the younger Russians are totally different. They were excited to see you there," Duda stated. "It's a new opportunity for the younger Russians to show the enthusiasm that is present among the younger generation. It's a good time to be there and they want to talk about many political points of view ... it changed my perception of the world."

Changing perceptions while also trying to learn about the Islam civilization or the Moroccan dialect like Fisher or trying to take Chinese in Russia like Duda can be grueling, but also invigorating.

"I needed Chinese credits, so I took Chinese in Russian and that was 'fun,'" Duda said. "I had a Chinese professor who had a doctorate in Russian, but sometimes his pronunciation was really bad. There were different problems for [the] Americans versus the Chinese students, but overall it was a crazy experience.

"We had to speak Russian all the time and if we were caught in the hallways speaking English, the teachers would come out of class and yell at us, saying we had to speak in Russian," Duda said. "There were a lot of Chinese students that didn't even know English, so the only way we could communicate with them was in Russian, so it was good Russian language practice for me."

Fisher believed going overseas was an eye-opening experience. Having gone on the Foreign Academy Exchange Program to Kuwait as well, he came away with a better understanding of the culture

"It's really hard to grasp their mindset when you watch CNN or read the *New York Times*. It's hard to understand where they are coming from," Fisher said. "You talk about politics, religion and history with them because it's very important because most Americans don't know much about their history, but [Arabs] know what happened hundreds and hundreds of years ago."

Before going abroad all the cadets must take a Defense Language Proficiency Test, according to Maj. Daniel Dorado, Arab language instructor here, and then take another once they come back to measure their gained language proficiency. However, he said, there are more intangibles

that go into going abroad such as learning the culture and creating a rapport with the people.

Dorado oversees the Arabic language students, which include 10 this semester [three in Morocco and seven in Egypt], and is happy about how the program has expanded since he graduated from the academy in 1997.

"It's something I hope we do more of and, from the cadets' point of view, there's only so much you can learn within the walls of the classroom at West Point," Dorado said. "You have to interact with people because people are people anywhere you go. It's important to make those connections.

"Studying abroad is such an invaluable tool not just for a language piece," he added, "but for the culture, learning how and why people think a certain way and building that rapport for the future." Liking how the program supports DOD's overall goal of language immersion and cultural knowledge, Dorado respects the cadets who challenge themselves to study abroad because it isn't easy.

"It's a daunting challenge," Dorado stated. "Some cadets aren't sure they are ready from a language standpoint to operate by themselves in a country where they need to use the language [all the time]. It's taking a risk and you may say something completely wrong, but you have to make that jump, take that leap. What a better way to do it then to be in a country for four-to-five months.

Dorado said he is very proud of the cadets who take part in the program.

"It's such a huge personal leap to know that you will be faced with the necessity to survive by using a different language," Dorado added. "What a way to measure that ...



Cadet 1st Class Daniel Fisher (left) enjoys the waterfalls in Sefrou, Morocco, with fellow Cadets 1st Class Tyler Parten and Erik Munn.

and in your mind knowing in the end that you can do it, that you can survive and thrive abroad."

#### **Community Features and Photos**

## Cadet French Language Club celebrates Mardi Gras early

By Anne Caliendo, Frank Tabasco and Maj. Brad Fisher

The Cadet French Language Club hosted a Mardi Gras French Immersion dinner at Benny's Lounge in Eisenhower Hall Feb. 13, their fourth such dinner held this year.

Immersion dinners are something of a novelty here at the academy as they essentially transport attendees into a completely French atmosphere with cadets and faculty engaging in French conversation while sampling delicious French and French-influenced cuisine.

The menu was prepared by the Directorate of Cadet Activities' Executive Chef and Culinary Institute of America graduate,

Frank Tabasco. Tabasco coordinates with French Club representatives monthly to come up with a theme for each upcoming immersion dinner.

The Mardi Gras feast featured dishes served in the heart of Cajun country with recipes from famous New Orleans restaurants making their USMA debut. The buffet dinner began with Chicken Gumbo followed by Louisiana Sunburst Salad, Smothered Green Beans, Spicy Catfish Tenders with Cajun Remoulade, Shrimp Fettuccini Alfredeaux and Red Beans with Rice. The meal concluded with a fiery display and serving of Bananas Foster, a famous dessert first created in the heart of the French Quarter.

Previous dinner themes were

varied. The first was *Les Antilles* and featured native dishes from Guadeloupe. For the second, Tabasco prepared a gastronomic journey through Francophone West Africa. To round out 2006, a classic French five-course formal dinner served by cadet wait-staff began with seared scallops and ended with poached pear with white chocolate mousse.

With French instructors and

French Exchange cadets attending, conversation was easily facilitated, and the learning process was in full swing. Instead of traveling for miles or waiting for the next Academic Individual Advanced Development opportunity, cadets were able to walk to Ike Hall for a true immersion experience. Members of the Vassar College and Fordham University French Clubs have also participated and the club

seeks to expand participantion to other nearby universities.

"It's great because the cadets are exposed to the language and the cuisine simultaneously," said Maj. Bradley Fisher, French Club Officer-In-Charge and French Department instructor. "This greatly assists our program of cultural immersion and awareness as cadets use French and Francophone cuisine to facilitate their language development."



DCA Executive Chef Frank Tabasco prepares Bananas Foster, a famous French Quarter dessert, for the cadets in the French Club.

Photo BY ANNE CALIENDO/DCA



#### FEBRUARY/MARCH MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at www.usma.edu/mwr

SUNDAY

**TUESDAY** 

**WEDNESDAY** 

**FRIDAY** 

**SATURDAY** 

24

nowl



## \$5 off labor for any custom framing job

Offer does not apply to do-it-yourself framing jobs. Limit I per person **Expires 3/24/07.** 



**BGCA Graphic Design**, 2:15, YC

Hail & Farewell B-Day Celebration, 3:30-5pm YC Mongolian BBQ, 5-9pm,

Polar Fest, 12pm-9pm, WP

Ski, Registration going on

25



**Brides Champagne** Brunch, 12-3pm, WP Club

Open Skate, 3:30-5pm, Tate

Staff & Faculty Hockey Program, 8:15-10:45pm, Tate

26

Wee Ones Play Group, 9:30-11am, ACS

Parent & Me, 9:30-10:45 (18 mos-4 yrs) YC



Spring Story Hour, WP Library, 10am & 1:30pm

6, 20 & 27)

27

Spinning, 5:40am, Group Pump, 9am, Cardio Blast, 5pm Every Tuesday at the MWR Fitness Center



Overseas Briefing, Korea, 1:30pm, Germany, 3pm, ATBF Training Level I, 5:30-7:30pm, ACS





#### March I

Spinning, 5:40am, Cardio Blast, Ab Lab, 9am, Every Thursday at the MWR Fitness

Theater Van to Broadway, 7-11:30pm, ITR



Cardio Kickboxing, 9am, Every Friday at the MWR Fitness Center



Defensive Driving, 8am-3pm, ACS, Register at ITR JR Ski Race, 9am-12pm,

Theater Van to Broadway, 7-11:30pm, ITR

4



Open Skate, 3:30-5pm, Tate

Staff & Faculty Hockey Program, 8:15-10:45pm, Tate 5

Philadelphia Flower Show, 8:30am-5pm, ITR



Wee Ones Play Group, 9:30-11am, ACS

BGCA Web Design, 2:15pm,

Chess Club, 7-8pm, YC (Mar Re-Entry Workshop, 10:30am Newcomers Welcome Brief, 9:30am, ACS



Defensive Driving, 8am-5pm, ACS, Register at ITR

8

B&G Awards Ceremony. 10am, ACS

Parent Advisory Group Meeting, 12-1pm, CDC



Put your thoughts ICE Interactive Customer Evaluation

https://ice.disa.mil Keyword: USMA



Pure Energy Step, 8am, Spinning, 10am, Every Saturday at the MWR Fitness Center

## **NOW SHOWING** in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

in the movie theater

Friday -- Stomp the Yard, PG-13, 7:30 p.m. Friday -- Freedom Writers, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday -- The Pursuit of Happyness, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Alpha Dogs, R, 9:30 p.m.

March 2 -- Stomp the Yard, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

March 2 -- Smoking Aces, R, 9:30 p.m. March 3 -- The Queen, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

March 3 -- Dreamgirls, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

The theater schedule can also be found at www.aafes.com.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku								
3	2	7	5	9	4	1	8	6
9	4	8	1	7	6	3	2	5
6	1	5	2	8	3	7	4	9
4	3	9	6	2	5	8	7	1
7	6	1	8	4	9	5	3	2
8	5	2	7	3	1	6	9	4
1	9	4	3	6	8	2	5	7
2	8	6	9	5	7	4	1	3
5	7	3	4	1	2	9	6	8

#### **DPW** closure

All offices and shops of the Directorate of Public Works will be closed on Wednesday, from approximately 9:30 to 11 a.m. for a mandatory Commercial Activities briefing for all employees.

This closure includes Self Help Center, Bldg 695; Housing Division

Offices and Inspections, Bldg 626; Service Desk and routine service order execution.

Emergency maintenance issues only should be reported to 938-2316.

Routine service needs should be reported prior to 9:30 a.m. or after 11 a.m.

liva! Las Vegas Nig



Army football coach Stan Brock and his wife, Lori, get ready to renew their vows at the Vegas-style wedding chapel that will be at Viva! Las Vegas Night tonight at the Thayer Hotel beginning at 7 p.m. SUZANNE SULLIVAN/WPWC

### 'Going to the Chapel ...

It is time to head to the bridesmaid. Chapel or head to the Craps table. Whichever you choose, you won't is a fun and entertaining part of want to miss all the fun at Viva! the evening's events. "Everyone Las Vegas, the West Point Women's will have a chance to grab their Club fundraiser, tonight from 7 friends or neighbors to join p.m. until midnight at the Thayer them in their photo opportunity, Hotel.

"Something Old," the same great Schanen-Skimmyhorn, Viva! Las casino games from the past as Vegas wedding planner. well as a silent and live auction

High Stakes Poker Tournament, community grants. added this year to increase the prizes and excitement.

is your chance to renew your vows our community, our children, Vegas style. Borrow some great and our Soldiers," said Janet wedding attire from the Vegas Browne, West Point Women's Wedding Chapel and ask your Club President. friends to join in the fun.

knot with the man in Blue Suede be found on the Club Web site at Shoes himself, Elvis! Yes, Elvis www.shopthepoint.com. will be officiating the weddings at Viva! Marilyn Monroe will volunteering should e-mail also be available to stand in as a vivavolunteers@yahoo.com.

The Vegas Wedding Chapel making for a great memory of Come enjoy an evening of West Point," said Stephanie

Every year the WPWC hosts Viva! Las Vegas as a way to Something New," the all new raise funds for scholarships and

When you spend a little money having a great time at Viva! "Something Borrowed," here Las Vegas you are supporting

Tickets are available at the Something Blue," tie the event and more information can

Persons interested in

## At Your Leisure

#### Gas line repair delayed

The repair of the gas line at the corner of Lee Road, Washington Road and the Service Road in back of Quarters 336 - 352 has been delayed until Spring.

As you are aware, we had scheduled a gas shut down and Service Road closure last week to make final repairs and restore the site.

However, when our work crew was preparing to remove the old gas line, we discovered a fitting on the line that was not included in our infrastructure drawings.

Once that was discovered it meant that additional valves would have to be closed and possibly replaced which, in turn, would impact additional quarters/buildings in the area.

Since those buildings/quarters were not notified of the shut down and the winter weather was coming during the week, we shut the project down

There is the need for additional planning and additional materials must be ordered. With the onset of more "wintry" winter weather [at least that's the way it appeared last week] and additional ground freezing, the decision was made to delay the project and execute the final repairs when spring weather permanently arrives at West Point.

The orange construction fence will remain in place during this delay. Notification will be made when the work is rescheduled.

Thayer Gate Maintenance and re-route

## DODEA Survey

Reminder to parents of West Point School children:

The anonymous Customer Satisfaction Survey is available online at www.dodea.edu by clicking the "CSS" link or a printed version can be obtained from the school.

You have until Wednesday to complete one, but don't wait until the last minute.

This is your chance to impact the quality of education in schools operated by the Department of Defense.

Separate surveys will be given to teachers and parents and to students in grades four and five, students in grades six to eight and students in grades nine through 12.

To further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Thaver search area, a brief re-routing of the present traffic flow will be implemented March 8.

The work should take approximately seven hours.

Traffic will enter Thayer Gate as a single lane of traffic and be directed into the Hotel Thayer parking lot. Once in the parking lot, traffic will be directed to use the appropriate lane designations.

Signs, barricades and cones will be positioned to guide the flow of traffic in an orderly fashion. Security measures will be fully implemented and the checkpoints will function in their normal manner. Hotel Thayer guests will park in BSF, which will be clearly marked with "Reserve Parking" barricades.

#### Housing residents info. update

Residents who have had any changes in status, e.g. change in department, home or duty phone number, change in dependents, etc. are required to advise the Housing Division of these changes.

A housing application has been posted on the DPW/Info Service section on the USMA global mail

Please fill out the application and e-mail it to Angel Figueroa or Ann Marie Walminski so your housing information can be updated.

Also, if you have a home e-mail address, please provide it. Having this information updated allows us to more efficiently contact you about issues affecting your quarters.

For information, contact Figueroa at 938-3942.

#### Drop N' Swap your excess hazardous waste materials

All residents are invited to participate in the DPW "Drop N" Swap" Program for the drop off and re-use of ordinary household materials that are not "Earthfriendly."

As you are cleaning or preparing to leave West Point, either give your unused products, such as paints, oven cleaners, furniture polish and other household cleansers and chemicals to a neighbor or take them to the Self Help Center, during normal operation hours, as a part of the Drop N' Swap Program.

These items must be left with the Self Help Clerk and not left by the door when the Center is closed.

### Fraud, Waste & Abuse Hotline

To report suspected Fraud, Waste and Abuse, call the Internal Review & Audit Compliance (IRAC) Office Hotline. Reports are confidential and callers do not have to identify themselves, but if they provide names, they can remain anonymous. To report suspected abuse of equipment/supplies accountability, travel/pay and cash accountability, call extension 938-8082. Please provide all pertinent information.

## What's Happening

### Supe's semi-annual command brief

The Superintendent's semiannual command interest briefing is today from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m., in Thayer Hall's Robinson Auditorium.

IAW USMA Reg. 600-1, this briefing is mandatory for all officers, all non-commissioned officers [E-7 and above] and civilian employees [GS-9 and above].

Others who wish to attend should coordinate with their activities.

Everyone must be seated by 12:40 p.m. The briefing will be broadcast live on the Command Channel and will be rebroadcast Monday at 1 p.m. and Tuesday at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

#### **Chapel Gospel Congregation**

The West Point Chapel Gospel Congregation invites the West Point community to join them in a celebration of African-American History Month Sunday at 12:30 p.m. at the West Point Chapel.

For more information contact Lt. Col. Archie Wilmer at 938-6726.

#### New fingerprinting hours

Beginning Thursday fingerprinting will only be conducted on Wednesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Provost Marshal's Office.

#### Wyldlife Barn Social

The Wyldlife Barn Social, for sixth through eighth grade students, is March 3 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the West Point Elementary School

If your last name ends in A-M bring something salty, like chips. If your last name ends in N-Z bring something sugary, like cookies.

#### Free tax preparation

MilitaryOneSource offers free tax preparation and filing.

Visit www.militaryonesource. com to file your federal and state taxes with TaxCut Basic Online by H&R Block.

Call 800-342-9647.

You name it, they can help -- 24/7.

Provided by the Department of Defense at no cost to active duty, Guard and Reserve [regardless of activation status] and their family members.

#### **AER Kickoff**

The Army Emergency Relief Kickoff will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. March 7 at Army Community Services at 622 Swift Road.

The annual AER campaign at West Point will run from March 7 through April 7. During this time, active duty personnel will be contacted and given the opportunity to contribute. Donations can be made in either cash, check or by allotment.

Worldwide in 2006, more than \$49 million in AER assistance was provided to more than 50,000 Soldiers and their families. Due to this large volume, AER relies on the annual fund raising campaign to assure the continued availability of funds to meet the increasing assistance need for Soldiers.

By supporting AER you help to continue the tradition of "The Army Takes care of its Own."

The POC for this campaign is AER Officer Joyce Harris. She can be reached at 938-5653/4621.

### West Point Trumpet Conference

The West Point Trumpet Conference will be held at West

## Keller Corner

#### **Upcoming Blood Drive**

The American Red Cross in Greater New York-Putnam/West Point is requesting volunteers from Orange and Putnam counties and the West Point community to help support the blood drive at West Point March 19-22 at Eisenhower Hall.

It will be 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., March 19-21 and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., March 22. To volunteer call [845] 938-4100.

#### Families PCsing overseas

If you are Active Duty and moving overseas with your family members, it is very important that you contact the Exceptional Family Member Program immediately. The EFMP office must screen all family members accompanying AD on overseas assignments.

A delay in screening may contribute to a delay in family members traveling with their sponsors.

#### Pandemic influenza posters

If you or your section/ department would like any Pandemic flu posters/brochures for display in your work areas.

Contact Maj. William Porter at *William.D.Porter@AMEDD*. *ARMY.MIL* for more information.

Point's Eisenhower Hall theater and ballroom March 10. The day's events begin at 9 a.m.

There will be a final concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

For more information contact the U.S. Military Academy Band's Staff Sgt. Eric Miller at [845] 938-2446 or e-mail him at *eric. miller@usma.edu*.

#### **DUSA** scholarship applications

The Scholarship Committee of the West Point chapter of the Society of the Daughters of the U.S. Army [DUSA] welcomes high school seniors to apply for one of our academic scholarships to assist their collegiate education.

To be eligible to receive a DUSA scholarship the applicant

- be a graduating high school senior
- the son or daughter or an active, retired or deceased U. S. military service member whose family resides at West Point [or within a 35 mile radius of West Point] at the time the scholarship is awarded.

Scholarship funds are intended to pay for tuition, books and fees for degree, certificate or other professional programs at accredited institutions of higher learning.

### Command Channel 8/23

Feb. 23 - March 2

Friday

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch 12:45 p.m. Supe's Semi-Annual Brief [Live]

6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Monday

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch 1 p.m. Supe's Semi-

Annual Brief 6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Tuesday

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch 9 a.m. Supe's Semi-

Annual Brief n. Army Newswatch

1 p.m. Army Newswatch 6 p.m. Army Newswatch 6:30 p.m. Supe's Semi-

Annual Brief

Wed. -- March 2

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch 1 p.m. Army Newswatch 6 p.m. Army Newswatch Scholarships will not be awarded to those attending one of the service academies.

The completed application packet must be postmarked or hand delivered by 5 p.m. April 1 to DUSA Scholarships, c/o Heidi Robbins, 126B Biddle Loop, West Point, NY 10996.

Please call or e-mail Heidi Robbins for more information or to receive an application at 446-2615 or heidirobbins@hvc.rr.com.

#### Red Cross needs your stories

The American Red Cross at West Point is looking for interesting true stories from anyone who has had an uplifting experience with the American Red Cross or Armed Forces Emergency Services.

Contact Michelle Strom, the area director for the WP ARC, at [845] 938-4100.

#### **Red Cross classes**

To register for any of the classes below, go to **www.nyredcross.org** or call 800-514-5103.

#### Babysitter's training

Are you 11 years old or older and want to learn basic child care?

Saturday, March 24 and April 7, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Lay Responder First Aid/CPR/AED instructor course

[Prerequisities: FIT and PreCourse testing.] Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### **Life Guard Training Course**

March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

#### CPR/AED

for the professional rescuer

March 4, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

#### First Aid for Cats and Dogs

March 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### CPR/AED adult

March 13 and 22, 5 to 11 p.m.

#### First Aid with CPR/AED adult

March 9, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### **CPR Child and Infant**

March 6, 5 to 11 p.m. March 31, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### **Standard First Aid Training**

March 15, 6 to 11 p.m.

#### ESGR support

Encourage your Guardsman and Reservists to nominate their employers for the 2007 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award at www.esgr.mil.

#### **Special Needs Parent Toolkit**

Register now to participate in the "Special Needs Parent Toolkit" webinar offered through Military OneSource Wednesday at 9 a.m., noon or 9 p.m.

The DOD toolkit has information needed for families navigating through the maze of medical and special education services, community support, benefits and entitlements.

Register at www.militaryonesource.com.

### Motorcycle Mentorship Program

Volunteers are needed for the Motorcycle Mentorship Program. This voluntary program establishes installation-level motorcycle clubs where less experienced riders and seasoned riders can meet in a supportive environment.

If you are interested in volunteering, call the West Point Safety Office at 938-3717.

To learn more about MMP go to the MMP Web site at https://crc. army.mil/index.asp or contact the West Point Safety Office at 8safe@usma.army.mil.

The goal is to launch a West Point MMP this spring.

## mwr Blurbs

#### Polar Fest Saturday

Registration is underway for the 2007 Polar Fest at the West Point Ski Slope Saturday.

Advance registration is required for competetive events.

Event activities will be open from noon until 9 p.m.

Admission is free for family members of deployed Soldiers.

Call the Ski Sales Office at 938-3726 for more information or go online to www.usma.edu/mwr.

ITR is going to the Philadelphia Flower Show March 5. The theme is "Legends of Ireland".

The van leaves West Point at 9 a.m. and leaves Philadelphia at

Tickets are available at the show's box office.

Call ITR for transportation pricing information ai 938-3601.

#### **West Point Club**

Mongolian BBQ is tonight from 5 to 9 p.m. It's your chance to create a culinary masterpiece. We start by making you the Chef!

Choose from a selection of beef, turkey, pork, shrimp and fresh vegetables, sauces and spices. After your creation is complete, a club chef will assist you by stir-frying your masterpeice.

For more info., call 938-5120.

#### Youth Center dance

St. Patrick's Day Dance for West Point and Highland Falls 7th and 8th graders, March 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. will be held at the West Point Youth Center, Bldg. 500.

Admission is one nonperishable item.

A permission slip is required. For more info., call 938-8525/3208.

#### Become a youth sponsor

Get involved in your community. Help new youth become more familiar with West Point. Training will be scheduled for those interested in volunteering for this program.

AW2@hoffman.army.mil.

4:30 p.m., Mon. through Fri.

The opportunity is available for children in grades 3 to 5 and teens in grades 6 to 12.

For more info., call 938-8525/3208.

#### Family of the Year award

Nominate a family that makes a difference in your community. The National Military Association's Family of the year award is given to 12 families who exemplify the best of the military family lifestyle.

One family will be recognized each month. Each winning family will receive \$500.

Additionally, one of these winning families will be chosen as the NMFA Family of the Year and will receive \$1,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C.

For more information or to nominate a deserving family, visit www.nmfa.org/familyaward.

#### **West Point Bowling Center**

The West Point Bowling Center is pleased to announce its reopening March 29 at 4 p.m.

Completely renovated, the Bowling center now features a state-of-the-art interior and serves Primo's pizza along with its famous Lil' Skeeters southern barbeque.

#### Multi crafts

Preserve memories at a price you can afford. The MWR Craft Shop offers a wide variety of mat design motifs and framing options to create a picture entirely unique

Drop it off or do it yourself with the help of our talented staff -- quality and beautiful results are guaranteed.

The Craft Shop also does engraving, laminating screen printing, trophy and plaque purchases and more.

Call 938-4812 for more information.

#### Youth Sports registration

Nounded Warrior Program The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program [AW2] provides severely disabled Soldiers and their families with a system of advocacy and follow-on support to assist them as they transition

To contact AW2, call 1-800-237-1336, or e-mail them at

For all other inquiries, call 1-800-833-6622 between 8 a.m. and

back to military service or into the civilian community.

Their Web site is www.aw2.army.mil.

Child Services Youth Sports registration is now open for the following spring sports: baseball, soccer, lacrosse and spring

Call Youth Sports at 938-3550 for more information.

#### Defensive driving classes

MWR defensive driving classes are now being held at Army Community Services in Bldg. 622. Classes are March 3, April 21, May 1 and 2 and June 16.

Register with ITR at 938-

#### SAS summer camp sign ups

School Age Services Summer Camp for grades K through 5 will accept applications from noncurrent patrons March 5 to 16.

Applications March 5 will be accepted from 6:30 a.m. until 5

Applications will be accepted on other dates from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Bldg. 1207.



#### A special visit

Ten-year old Danny Mulvey, who suffers from leukemia, and mom Maureen of Chester, N.Y., visited USMA recently, fulfilling a desire Danny had to visit the Civil & Mechanical Engineering Dept. and take a walk through the barracks. He also met with Commandant of Cadets, Brig. Gen. Robert Caslen, who presented him with a Commandant's coin, and Cadet First Captain Jonathan Nielsen and had lunch in the Cadet Mess Hall. PHOTO BY AIR FORCE CAPT. TIMOTHY C. DENMAN/C&ME

## Army and Community Sports \_\_\_\_\_ Army Men's Tennis looking for three peat

Story and photos by Eric S. Bartelt Sports Editor

Two words describe the team's final destination -- Three-peat. The talent shines bright from the Army men's tennis team that has won the Patriot League Tournament the last two years, but one thing seems to want to derail the glory ride before it starts -- injuries.

Injuries are a part of sport, but they hit the men's tennis team early and often this year.

Senior team captain John Houghton, Army's number one singles and doubles player, is trying to get his game back after having knee surgery in July.

"He played matches the weekend before and had some swelling," said head coach Jim Poling, "but he finished both matches, which is good."

Houghton, who tied for the most singles wins [14] last year with fellow senior Michael Good, is a very important cog on the team and his talent in pressure situations was on stage two years ago in the Patriot League Championship.

"John Houghton was down 5-2 in the third set against a kid from American [University] and came back to win 7-5 in the championships," Poling explained. "He is a clutch player for us."

Good and junior Eddie Kang, the co-MVPs of the PL Championships last year, are two other players Poling considers clutch.

Kang decided the PL Championship match in each of the last two years, and with those three guys, Poling said, the team has a "good nucleus that makes us pretty good."

Now, it's just getting them all together, as Kang spent last semester in China as a part of the Department of Foreign Language's Semester Abroad Program. Good. although he played in the fall, has been fighting the injury bug and, unfortunately, his injury has been hampering him for two years.

"My [nerve problem near my elbow] still bothers me," Good said. "The only time it gets better is with some time off, but upon coming back it returns to the same situation and the same amount of pain."

The injury occurred back in February 2005 and gradually got worse as the season progressed. After plenty of long matches and the long season he felt pretty bad by



Junior Eddie Kang teamed with Good as co-MVPs of the Patriot League Tournament last spring as Army went to the NCAAs for a second consecutive season.

the end of the spring of 2005. The pain continued through last season, but he still fights through it to do his best for the squad.

"I don't really notice the pain during the matches and I don't think it's held me back from playing my best," Good said. "After matches I go in and ice a lot after I play and I see the trainer pretty often, but I've learned to just suck it up.'

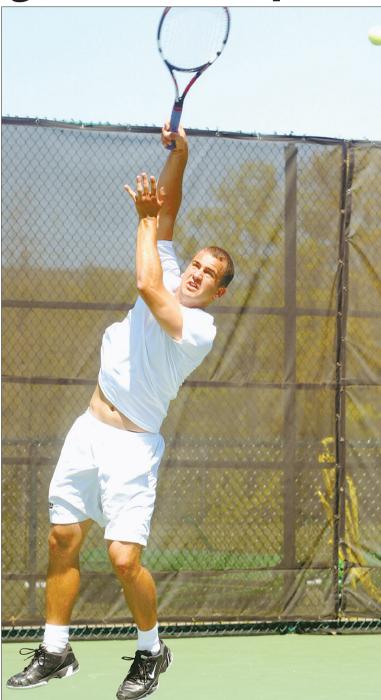
Good is limited to less than 25 serves a day [in practice] because of his bad elbow and serving, he said, is the strongest part of his game.

With Houghton and Good leading the team, both the coach and the younger players have noticed their importance and their willingness to play through

"They're great, even when they go out there and play with pain, they play hard," Poling said. 'They're outstanding leaders."

Sophomore Phil Mahawi shared the coach's sentiments on Houghton and Good saying, "They are great examples of what hard work is supposed to be and even when there's a rough week, they come out day in and day out and still give 100 percent.

of the team," Mahawi added. "I'm glad we have the both of them on our team."



Senior Micahel Good was tied for the team lead in singles wins last year with 14. He will also team with Houghton as the number one doubles pairing this spring.

and Good and he came up with

a straight sets victory in singles

Feb. 11 against strong Princeton

started roughly, he believes his

forehand and his strong serve have

the young talent as well with a

season ending torn ACL knee injury

to freshman Chris Albornoz and

sophomore Rick Houghton has

yet to return from a knee injury of

his own. But, other young players

have stepped to the forefront with

made him an asset for the team.

Although he feels his season

Injuries have gutted some of

competition.

'That motivates me and the rest

Mahawi is one of the young players that is rising fast up the team's ranks. His doubles partner this year is Kang as the second doubles pairing behind Houghton freshmen Charles Mullenger, Johnny Lucero and Bruno Lucivero making impressions on the older players already.

"Bruno is hitting the ball well right now," Good said. "Lucero is definitely stepping up his game and Charles is playing really well too. They'll get some matches under their belts [with the injuries] and I think that will boost their confidence and they will all be an asset to the team down the road."

For this team, down the road means the Patriot League

See MEN'S TENNIS, page 15



Senior team captain John Houghton is coming back from knee surgery and is looking to lead the team in number one singles as he did a year ago.

## Women improve to 23-5, season finale Saturday

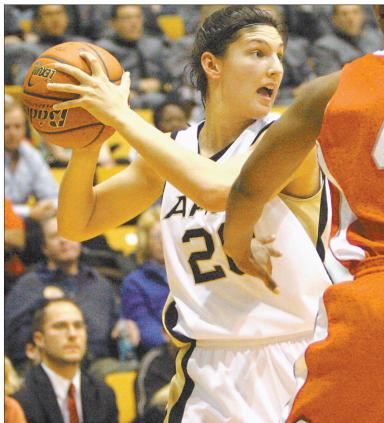
WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Army continued to dominate its series with Lafayette as the Black Knights defeated the Leopards, 70-57, Tuesday at Christl Arena. Army has now won 14 straight contests against Lafayette and has swept the yearly series for six years in a row.

Army's [23-5, 10-3 Patriot League] 14 consecutive victories over Lafayette [7-21, 5-8] is the longest string of wins over any opponent all-time. It is also just the third time the Black Knights have won 10 games or more in the Patriot League and second year in a row

they've reached that mark.

After Army jumped out quickly to a 4-0 lead just 34 seconds into the contest, the two squads played neck-and-neck as the score was tied three times prior to the 11-minute mark. After Vanessa Van de Venter knotted the score 10-10 at the 11:51 mark, the Black Knights went on a 12-2 spurt during 3:09, as Army took a 22-12 lead.

Kara Stetler's three-pointer at the 8:32 mark cut Lafayette's deficit to 22-15, but Army again went sprinting. The Black Knights 13-4 run, spurred by junior forward Stefanie Stone's six points, put



Junior forward Stefanie Stone scored 12 points to help Army defeat Lafayette 70-57 Tuesday at Christl Arena. Army women basketball's 23-5 record is their second best win total in team history, only behind the 25-3 team in 1983-84. ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Army on top 35-19 with 3:56 remaining in the half.

Four straight Leopard points narrowed the margin to 35-23 with 2:17 to play in the stanza, but Army would extend its advantage to 16, 41-25, by halftime.

The Black Knights began the second half opening up their largest lead of the game, 47-25, at the 17:09 mark on a 6-0 run. Sophomore guard Alex McGuire chipped in four points during the spurt. Lafayette answered with a 10-4 run over 5:30, cutting the margin to 16, 51-35, with 11:39 remaining in the contest.

Two Leopard turnovers led to a 6-0 run for the Black Knights as they tied their largest lead of the contest, 57-35, at the 10:20 mark. Lafayette limited Army without a basket from the field and just nine free throws over the next 9:14 as the Leopards went on a 20-9 run, chipping the Black Knights advantage to 11, 66-55, with 1:06 remaining.

McGuire's lay-up with 44 seconds remaining ended the dry spell for the Black Knights, and Army went on to win 70-57.

"I obviously had concerns about coming off an emotional win Sunday over Navy, and how well we play, and we have Bucknell staring at us on Saturday," head coach Dave Magarity said. "Our pressure, at times, got to them and I thought early on, we just took them a little bit out of their rhythm. But, they cut a 22-point lead down to 11 in the blink of an eye just by executing. If you fall asleep and don't do a good job defending them, they will get you on a back door play every time down if you're not careful, and they are great foul shooters."

McGuire led a quartet of Army scorers in double figures with 16

points, including a 7-for-7 effort from the foul line.

Junior guard Cara Enright added 13 points in the Army effort and had a team-high three steals. Stone finished with 12 points, while senior guard Jen Hansen had 10 and held team-high honors in rebounding with eight caroms.

"I am very pleased with the way we played," Magarity commented. "I thought our perimeter game was solid. [Alex] McGuire got out to a little bit of a rough start and all of a sudden picked it up to another level"

Army will enter the Patriot League Tournament as the No. 2 seed. The Black Knights will face the No. 7 seed in the quarterfinals at Annapolis, Md., March 3.

The Black Knights close out the regular season hosting Bucknell in the finale Saturday at 3:15 p.m. Army will honor its senior class prior to tip-off.



#### **CHECKMATE**

Seven cadets participated in the Eastern Team Chess Championships in Parsippany, N.J., Saturday through Monday. The cadet team took second place in the tournament going 3-2-1. This is the first time in five years the academy team didn't take first place at the competition. From left to right, Cadet 2nd Class Bovey Zhu, Cadet 4th Class Eugene Sung, Cadet 1st Class Mike Wathen and Cadet 2nd Class David Jacobs are deeply involved within the competition. The team also served as the Color Guard for the opening ceremony.

Photo Provided By Chess Team

## SPORTS NOTES

• BRIGADE BOXING OPEN will take place Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Hayes Gym. The Open will be televised by ESPNU starting at 7 p.m.

• NIGHT TIME UNIT INTRAMURAL and STAFF & FACULTY NOONTIME VOLLEYBALL signups are underway.

Both leagues are scheduled to start March 19 and will run through May.

Team entry deadlines for both leagues run until Thursday.

All teams can signup by calling James McGuinness at 938-3066 or e-mail him at James. McGuinness@usma. edu.

#### **Army and Community Sports**

#### **IM** hoops update

PLAYOFF RESULTS AS OF WED. NORTH DIV. QUARTERS

DAD/DIA 25, MATH #1 20 DAD/DIA 27, MATH #1 19 [DAD/DIA wins 2-0]

#### **SEMI-FINAL**

SOSH 35, SYSTEMS 22 SOSH 31, SYSTEMS 29, OT [SOSH WINS 2-0]

SOUTH DIV. QUARTERS HISTORY 19, EE&CS 18 [HISTORY WINS 2-1]

Law 30, History 14 [Law leads 1-0]

#### MEN'S TENNIS, cont. from page 13

championships.

During Poling's first two years at Army, the team lost the championship to American only to turn around and do the same to them the last two spring seasons.

After a strong 21-5 dual meet record in 2005 the team dropped to 12-16 in duals last year because of some bad luck, but that's what made last year feel so gratifying in the end to Good.

"It was probably more of a thrill than in my sophomore year because at one point everyone was really down, but being able to come back and win the Patriots was great," Good said. "I think it was a bigger accomplishment than the year prior."

Poling believes when the team is 100 percent healthy it has the horses to win the Patriot League title again. From the sheer desire it took for them to win last year's title, it means a lot for Poling to see his team win and make the NCAA Tournament.

"It's so much fun to have a goal like that and achieve it," Poling said. "Everybody worked so hard and it was great to see them achieve their dreams. We're looking forward to a great season. We'll definitely be a team to be reckoned with, if healthy."